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Muriel Ciolkowska

Now you have left—you, in whose presence I would steep, around whose presence I hover like a gull over the lake. And, ere I have tasted it, your presence is no more your presence.

You have left. You have returned to me. Your presence no longer disturbs me from you.

Muriel Ciolkowska

OFF THE HIGHWAY

Lilacs lift leaves of cool satin
And blossoms of mother-of-pearl
Against the tarnished silver of the deserted house.
Tall, exquisite grasses fill the door-yard with spray.
Through the sun-drenched fragrance drifts the hazy monotone of bees.
Tints of opal and jade; the hush of emerald shadows,
And a sense of the past as a living presence
Distil a haunting wistful peace.

Julia Weld Huntington